

**Limited Soils Investigation**  
Relocation of Water Tank  
Southwest Corner of Normandie Ave.  
and 190th Street  
Los Angeles, California

Project Number 5936-96  
May 13, 1997

**NorCal Engineering**

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SOILS AND GEOTECHNICAL CONSULTANTS  
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May 13, 1997

Project Number 5936-96

McDonnell Douglas Realty Company  
4060 Lakewood Boulevard  
Lakewood, California 90808

Attn: Mr. Johnny Marasco

RE: **Limited Soils Investigation** - Proposed Relocation of Water Tank -  
Located Within the Proposed Harbor Gateway Center - Southwest  
Corner of Normandie Avenue and 190th Street, in the City of Los  
Angeles, California

Dear Mr. Marasco:

Pursuant to your request, this firm has performed a Limited Soils Investigation for the above referenced project in accordance with your authorization. The purpose of this investigation is to evaluate the geotechnical conditions of the subject site and to provide soil bearing capacity recommendations for the proposed water tank relocation. This soils engineering report presents the finding of our study along with conclusions and recommendations for development.

We appreciate this opportunity to be of service to you. If you have any further questions, please don not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,  
NORCAL ENGINEERING

*Keith D. Tucker*  
Keith D. Tucker  
Project Engineer  
R.G.E. 841



*Troy D. Norrell*  
Troy D. Norrell  
President

### **Structural Considerations**

This geotechnical engineering report presents the findings of our study along with engineering analysis and recommendations for the proposed improvements. It is proposed to relocate a water tank from the northeast corner of the property to a location near the southeast corner of the site, as shown on the attached plan. Final building plans shall be reviewed by this firm prior to submittal for city approval to determine the need for any additional study and revised recommendations pertinent to the proposed development, if necessary.

### **Site Description**

The existing building consists of a dock-high concrete tilt-up structure with office areas and a large warehouse section covered by a concrete slab on grade.

### **Field Investigation**

The purpose of the investigation was to explore the subsurface conditions and to provide preliminary geotechnical engineering design parameters for the relocated tank. The investigation consisted of the placement of one subsurface exploratory borings by hand auger to a maximum depth of 12 feet placed at an accessible place in the new tank location. The existing pavement was cored in order to gain access to the underlying subgrade soils. The explorations were visually classified and logged by a field engineer with locations of the subsurface explorations shown on the attached Site Plan.

The exploratory borings revealed the shallow earth materials to consist of approximately one foot of fill soils classfying as silty CLAY with gravel overlying stiff native soils also classifying as silty CLAY. Sand content increased with depth of exploration and clay content decreased. The existing pavement section was measured at 3.5 inches of asphaltic concrete overlying 8 inches of base material. No groundwater was encountered and no caving occurred.

### **Laboratory Tests**

Relatively undisturbed samples of the subsurface soils were obtained to perform laboratory testing and analysis for direct shear and to determine in-place moisture/densities. These undisturbed samples consisted of one inch rings with inside diameter of 2.5 inches. Bulk bag samples were obtained in the upper soils for maximum density tests.

- A. The field moisture content (ASTM:D 2216) and the dry density of the ring samples were determined in the laboratory. This data is listed on Table I.
- B. Maximum density tests (ASTM: D-1557-78) were performed on typical samples of the upper soils. Results of these tests are shown on Table II.
- C. Direct shear tests (ASTM: D-3080) were performed on undisturbed and disturbed samples of the subsurface soils. These tests were performed to determine parameters for the calculation of the safe bearing capacity. The test is performed under saturated conditions at loads of 500 lbs./sq.ft., 1,000 lbs./sq.ft., and 2,000 lbs./sq.ft. with results shown on Plate A.

- E. Consolidation tests (ASTM: D-2435) were performed on undisturbed samples to determine the differential and total settlement which may be anticipated based upon the proposed loads. Water was added to the samples at a surcharge of one KSF and the settlement curves are plotted on Plate B.

### **CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that site inspections be performed by a representative of this firm during development to verify the findings and recommendations documented in this report. Any unusual conditions which may be encountered in the course of the project development may require the need for additional study and revised recommendations.

#### **Site Grading Recommendations**

Any vegetation or pavement shall be removed and hauled from proposed grading areas prior to the start of grading operations. Any removed soils may be reutilized as compacted fill once any deleterious material or oversized materials (in excess of eight inches) is removed. All grading operations shall be performed in accordance with the attached "Specifications for Compacted Fill Operations". All upper fill soils shall be removed to stiff native soils, the exposed surface scarified to a depth of 12 inches, brought to the proper moisture content and compacted to a minimum of 90% of the laboratory standard (ASTM: D-1557-78) prior to placement of any additional compacted fill soils, foundations, slabs-on-grade and pavement. Any fill soils placed shall also be compacted to at least 90% relative compaction as verified by the Soils Engineer.

### **Temporary Excavations**

Temporary unsurcharged excavations in the existing site materials should be trimmed at a 1 to 1(horizontal to vertical) gradient. In areas where soils with little or no binder are encountered, where adverse geological conditions are exposed, or where excavations are adjacent to existing structures, shoring, slot-cutting, or flatter excavations may be required. The temporary cut slope gradients given above do not preclude local raveling and sloughing. All excavations shall be made in accordance with the requirements of CAL-OSHA and other public agencies having jurisdiction.

### **Foundation Design**

The foundations for the tank may be designed utilizing safe bearing capacity of 2,000 psf for an embedded depth of 18 inches below lowest adjacent grade into approved compacted fill soils or competent native soils. A representative of this firm shall inspect all foundation excavations prior to pouring concrete. The following values may be utilized in resisting lateral loads imposed on the structure. Requirements of the Uniform Building Code should be adhered to when the coefficient of friction and passive pressures are combined.

Coefficient of Friction - 0.35  
Equivalent Passive Fluid Pressure = 200 lbs./cu.ft.  
Maximum Passive Pressure = 2,000 lbs./cu.ft.

The passive pressure recommendations are valid for the competent native ground or compacted fill soils.

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### **Settlement Analysis**

Resultant pressure curves for the consolidation tests on the upper soils only are shown on Plate B. Computations utilizing these curves and the recommended safe bearing capacities reveal that the foundations will experience settlements on the order of 1/2 inch and differential settlements of less than 1/4 inch.

### **Closure**

The recommendations and conclusions contained in this report are based upon the soil conditions uncovered in our test excavations. No warranty of the soil condition between our excavations is implied. NorCal Engineering should be notified for possible further recommendations if unexpected to unfavorable conditions are encountered during construction phase. It is the responsibility of the owner to ensure that all information within this report is submitted to the Architect and appropriate Engineers for the project.

This firm should have the opportunity to review the final plans to verify that all our recommendations are incorporated. This report and all conclusions are subject to the review of the controlling authorities for the project.

A preconstruction conference should be held between the developer, general contractor, grading contractor, city inspector, architect, and soil engineer to clarify any questions relating to the grading operations and subsequent construction. Our representative should be present during the grading operations and construction phase to certify that such recommendations are complied within the field.

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This limited soils investigation has been conducted in a manner consistent with the level of care and skill exercised by members of our profession currently practicing under similar conditions in the Southern California area. No other warranty, expressed or implied is made.

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## **SPECIFICATIONS FOR PLACEMENT OF COMPACTED FILL**

### **Preparation**

Any existing low density soils and/or saturated soils shall be removed to competent natural soil under the inspection of the Soils Engineering Firm. After the exposed surface has been cleansed of debris and/or vegetation, it shall be scarified until it is uniform in consistency, brought to the proper moisture content and compacted to a minimum of 90% relative compaction (in accordance with ASTM: D-1557-78).

### **Material For Fill**

The on-site soils or approved import soils may be utilized for the compacted fill provided they are free of any deleterious materials and shall not contain any rocks, brick, asphaltic concrete, concrete or other hard materials greater than eight inches in maximum dimensions. Any import soil must be approved by the Soils Engineering firm a minimum of 24 hours prior to importation of site.

### **Placement of Compacted Fill Soils**

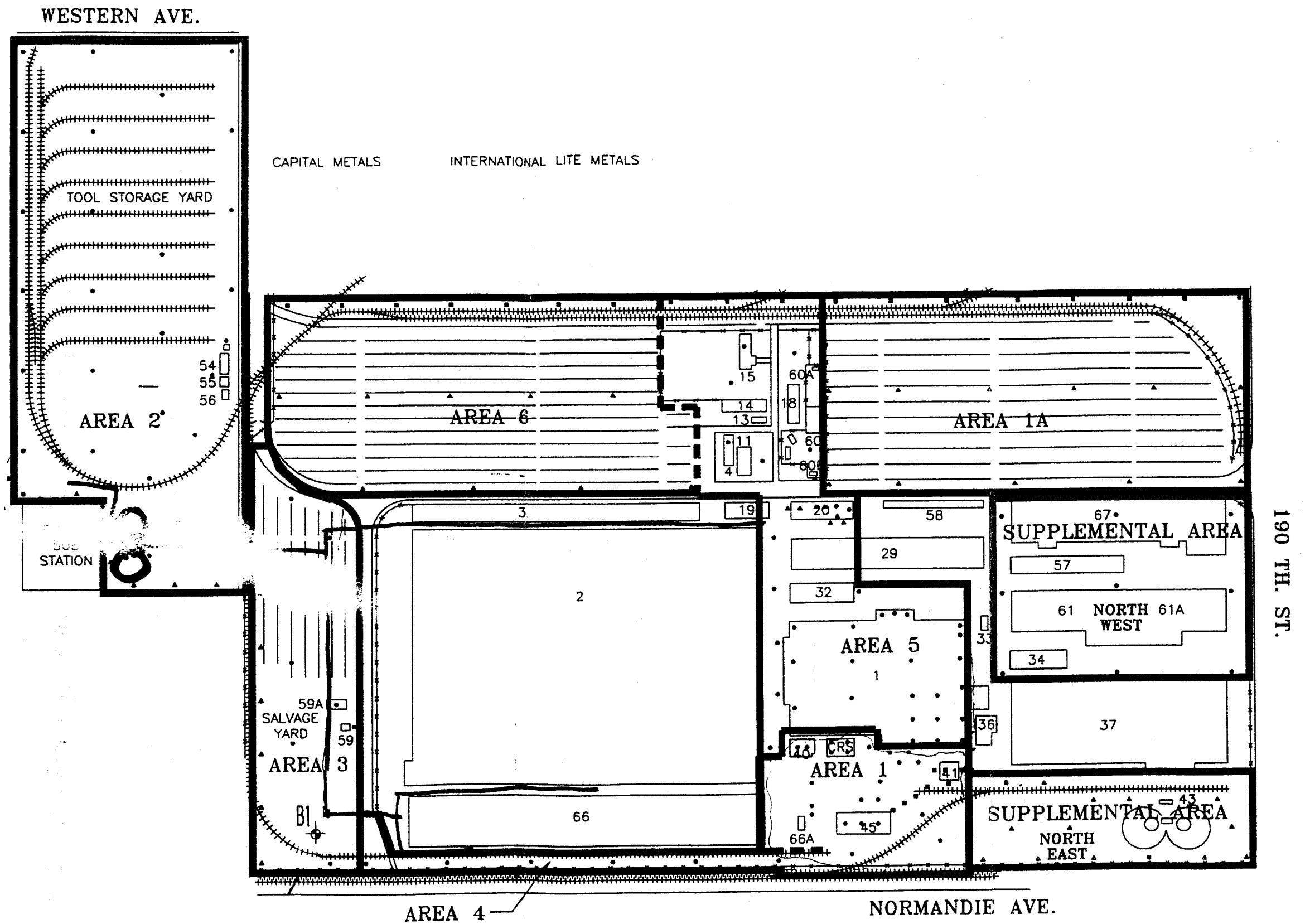
The approved fill soils shall be placed in layers not excess of six inches in thickness. Each lift shall be uniform in thickness and thoroughly blended. The fill soils shall be brought to within 15% of the optimum moisture content, unless otherwise specified by the Soils Engineering firm. Each lift shall be compacted to a minimum of 90% relative compaction (in accordance with ASTM: D-1557-78) and approved prior to the placement of the next layer of soil. Compaction tests shall be obtained at the discretion of the Soils Engineering firm but to a minimum of one test for every 500 cubic yards placed and/or for every 2 feet of compacted fill placed.

The minimum relative compaction shall be obtained in accordance with accepted methods in the construction industry. The final grade of the structural areas shall be in a dense and smooth condition prior to placement of slabs-on-grade or pavement areas. No fill soils shall be placed, spread or compacted during unfavorable weather conditions. When the grading is interrupted by heavy rains, compaction operations shall not be resumed until approved by the Soils Engineering firm.

### **Grading Observations**

The controlling governmental agencies should be notified prior to commencement of any grading operations. This firm recommends that the grading operations be conducted under the observation of a Soils Engineering firm as deemed necessary. A 24 hour notice must be provided to this firm prior to the time of our initial inspection.

Observation shall include the clearing and grubbing operations to assure that all unsuitable materials have been properly removed; approve the exposed subgrade in areas to receive fill and in areas where excavation has resulted in the desired finished grade and designate areas of overexcavation; and perform field compaction tests to determine relative compaction achieved during fill placement. In addition, all foundation excavations shall be observed by the Soils Engineering firm to confirm that appropriate bearing materials are present at the design grades and recommend any modifications to construct footings.



0 200 400  
Approximate Scale: 1"=200'

**LEGEND**

- 10' Deep
- ▲ 25' Deep
- 50' Deep

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**MCDONNELL DOUGLAS**

**PROJECT 5938-98**

DATE MAY 1997

### APPROXIMATE LOCATION OF FIELD EXPLORATIONS

FIGURE 1  
February 6, 1997

MAJOR DIVISIONS			SYMBOLS	TYPICAL NAMES
COARSE GRAINED SOILS  (MORE THAN 50% OF MATERIAL IS LARGER THAN 200 SIEVE SIZE)	GRAVELS  (MORE THAN 50% OF COARSE FRACTION IS LARGER THAN THE NO. 4 SIEVE SIZE)	CLEAN GRAVELS (LITTLE OR NO FINES)	 GW	WELL GRADED GRAVELS, GRAVEL-SAND MIXTURES, LITTLE OR NO FINES.
		GRAVELS WITH FINES (APPRECIABLE AMT. OF FINES)	 GP	POORLY GRADED GRAVELS OR GRAVEL-SAND MIXTURES, LITTLE OR NO FINES.
			 GM	SILTY GRAVELS, GRAVEL-SAND-SILT MIXTURES.
			 GC	CLAYEY GRAVELS, GRAVEL-SAND-CLAY MIXTURES.
	SANDS  (MORE THAN 50% OF COARSE FRACTION IS SMALLER THAN THE NO. 4 SIEVE SIZE)	CLEAN SANDS	 SW	WELL GRADED SANDS, GRAVELLY SANDS, LITTLE OR NO FINES.
		SANDS WITH FINES (APPRECIABLE AMT. OF FINES)	 SP	POORLY GRADED SANDS OR GRAVELLY SANDS, LITTLE OR NO FINES.
			 SM	SILTY SANDS, SAND-SILT MIXTURES.
			 SC	CLAYEY SANDS, SAND-CLAY MIXTURES.
FINE GRAINED SOILS  (MORE THAN 50% OF MATERIAL IS SMALLER THAN 200 SIEVE SIZE)	SILTS AND CLAYS (LIQUID LIMIT LESS THAN 50)		 ML	INORGANIC SILTS AND VERY FINE SANDS, ROCK FLOUR, SILTY OR CLAYEY FINE SANDS OR CLAYEY SILTS WITH SLIGHT PLASTICITY.
			 CL	INORGANIC CLAYS OF LOW TO MEDIUM PLASTICITY, GRAVELLY CLAYS, SANDY CLAYS, SILTY CLAYS, LEAN CLAYS.
			 OL	ORGANIC SILTS AND ORGANIC SILTY CLAYS
	SILTS AND CLAYS (LIQUID LIMIT MORE THAN 50)		 MH	INORGANIC SILTS, MICACEOUS OR DIATOMACEOUS FINE SANDY OR SILTY SOILS, ELASTIC SILTS.
			 CH	INORGANIC CLAYS OF HIGH PLASTICITY, FAT CLAYS
			 OH	ORGANIC CLAYS OF MEDIUM TO HIGH PLASTICITY, ORGANIC SILTS.
HIGHLY ORGANIC SOILS			 Pt	PEAT AND OTHER HIGHLY ORGANIC SOILS

BOUNDARY CLASSIFICATIONS: SOILS POSSESSING CHARACTERISTICS OF TWO GROUPS ARE DESIGNATED BY COMBINATIONS OF GROUP SYMBOLS

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UNIFIED SOIL CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

PROJECT

DATE

	MOISTURE (%)	DRY DENSITY (PCF)	PENETRATION RESISTANCE (BLOWS/FOOT)	SAMPLE TYPE	DEPTH (FEET)	DESCRIPTION OF SUBSURFACE MATERIALS	ELEVATION (FEET)
						THIS SUMMARY APPLIES ONLY AT THE LOCATION OF THIS BORING AND AT THE TIME OF DRILLING. SUBSURFACE CONDITIONS MAY DIFFER AT OTHER LOCATIONS AND MAY CHANGE AT THIS LOCATION WITH THE PASSAGE OF TIME. THE DATA PRESENTED IS A SIMPLIFICATION OF ACTUAL CONDITIONS ENCOUNTERED.	
	16.6	117.2		R	0	3½ inches PAVEMENT SECTION over 8 inches of BASE MATERIAL	
	19.3	107.7		R/B			
	18.0	106.9		R		FILL SOILS CLAY with gravel, brown, medium stiff, moist	
	15.6	102.0		R	5		
	17.3	98.7		R		NATIVE SOILS Silty CLAY, dark brown, stiff, moist	
	10.3	107.9		R	10		
	11.0	100.7		R		SILT, sandy with clay, light brown, moist, dense, decreasing clay content with depth	
						SAND, fine grained, silty, light brown, damp, dense	
					15		
					20		
					25		
					30		
					35		

#### SAMPLE TYPES

- ☒ Rock Core
 ☐ Bulk Sample
 ☐ Standard Split Spoon
 ☐ Jar Sample
 ☒ Ring Sample

DATE DRILLED: 5/8/97

EQUIPMENT USED: Hand Auger

GROUNDWATER LEVEL: Not encountered

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LOG OF BORING #1

PROJECT 5936-96 DATE

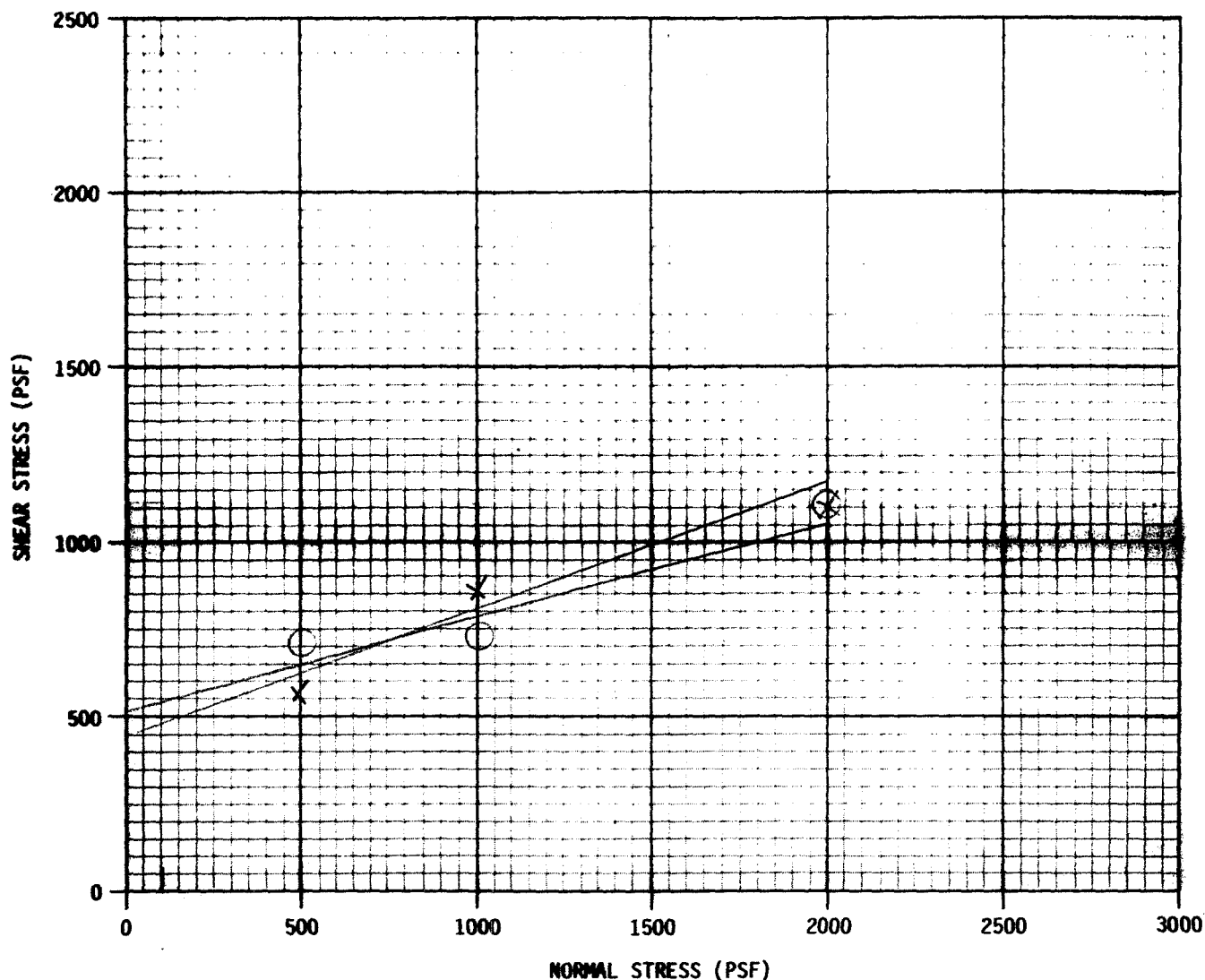
May 13, 1996

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**TABLE I**  
**MAXIMUM DENSITY TESTS**  
**(ASTM: D-1557-78)**

<u>Sample</u>	<u>Classification</u>	<u>Optimum Moisture</u>	<u>Maximum Dry Density (lbs./cu.ft.)</u>
B1 @ 1-3'	silty CLAY	12.0	120.0

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SYMBOL	BORING NUMBER	DEPTH (FEET)	$\phi$ (DEGREES)	C (PSF)	DRY DENSITY (PCF)	MOISTURE CONTENT (%)
X	1	2.5	19	450	107.7	19.3
O	1	4.0	14	525	106.9	18.0
$\Delta$						
$\square$						

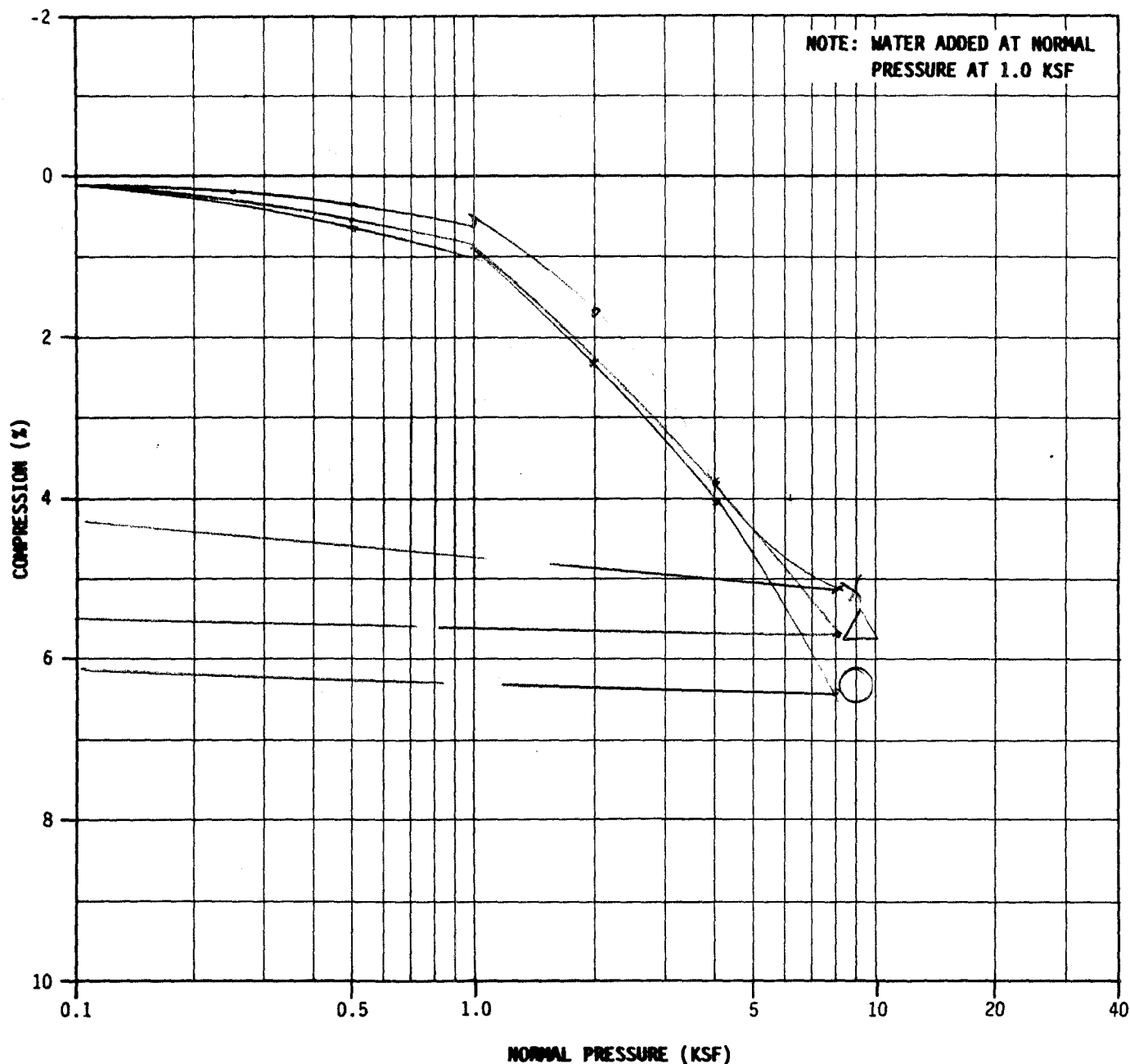
NOTE: TESTS PERFORMED ON SATURATED SAMPLES UNLESS SHOWN BELOW.  
 (FM) FIELD MOISTURE  
 TESTS PERFORMED ON UNDISTURBED SAMPLES UNLESS SHOWN BELOW.  
 (R) SAMPLES REMOLDED AT 90% OF MAXIMUM DRY DENSITY

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**DIRECT SHEAR TEST RESULTS**  
 Plate A

PROJECT 5936-96

DATE



SYMBOL	BORING NUMBER	DEPTH (FEET)	DRY DENSITY (PCF)	MOISTURE CONTENT (%)	LIQUID LIMIT (%)	PLASTICITY INDEX (%)
x	1	4.0	106.9	18.0		
o	1	8.0	98.7	17.3		
Δ	1	12.0	100.7	11.0		
□						

——— COMPRESSION (FM) FIELD MOISTURE - NO WATER ADDED  
 - - - REBOUND (R) SAMPLE REMOLDED AT 90% OF MAXIMUM DRY DENSITY

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CONSOLIDATION TEST RESULTS  
Plate B

PROJECT 5936-96 DATE